

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY** REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The office action dated May 2, 2003 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for approving the proposed drawing corrections filed on January 22, 2003. Applicant submits herewith new formal drawings for Figures 1-4. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to approve these drawings.

In the Office Action, claims 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,307,188 to Dingwall et al. (hereinafter Dingwall). Applicant amends claim 6 to recite explicitly those features that were believed to be inherent in the original claim. Applicant also adds new claim 12. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and allow these claims.

The rejection of independent claim 6 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 6 is allowable over Dingwall in that this claim recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a backlight device disposed opposite and adjacent to the lower polarizer".

Dingwall does not disclose, teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention. The structure of claim 6 of the present invention is different from the Dingwall structure in that in Dingwall, the backlight 224 is separated from the polarizer 237b by an additional LCD panel 232 (Dingwall, Figure 2 and column 6, lines 32-50). Therefore, Dingwall cannot disclose or suggest at least this feature of the claim. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 and claims 7-12, which depend from claim 6, are allowable over the cited references.

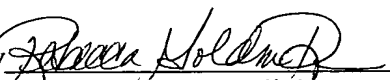
Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. Attached hereto is an Appendix showing the marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: August 1, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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